



Summer 2003



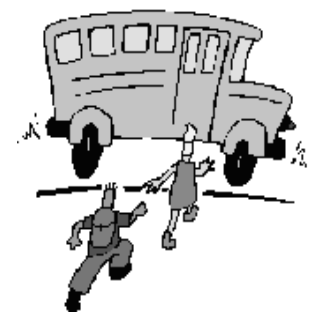
KEEPING CHIP FAMILIES INFORMED

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BACK TO SCHOOL!

It's that time of year again – time to start thinking about going BACK TO SCHOOL. It's a good time to schedule immunizations (shots), eye exams, dental visits and sports physicals.



Regular, well-child doctor visits help your children stay healthy and prevent illness and disease. Immunizations are an important part of good health care. If your children have not had all their shots, see your doctor, local health department or clinic. Be sure you use a CHIP provider. Check your BlueCHIP Provider Directory for providers in your area. Let your doctor know about any allergies your child has.

Look at this...

Yearly eye exams are recommended for children. Children with CHIP can get eye exams from CHIP optometrists and ophthalmologists. Your child may get one pair of eyeglasses every 365 days. CHIP will pay for certain frames – known as Walman Optical/CHIP frames. CHIP does not pay for extra features, such as protective coatings, and most tints. You may choose to pay for extra features separately. Check your BlueCHIP Provider Directory for providers in your area.

Bite into this...

Taking care of your children's teeth now helps prevent cavities and other problems in the future. For the names of CHIP dentists near you, check the list of dentists recently mailed to you. You can also call the Family Health Line at 1-877-543-7669 or check our web site at www.chip@state.mt.us

- ☛ Children should see a dentist when their first tooth comes in, (but no later than the first birthday) and every six months after that.
- ☛ The first visit allows the dentist to show you the right way to clean your children's teeth to prevent early tooth decay.
- ☛ Get ready for your children's first visit by pretending you are the dentist and having them "open wide".
- ☛ Do not say things that might scare children about going to the dentist.
- ☛ A wet washcloth can be used to rub plaque from babies' teeth – give older babies a toothbrush to try brushing (with your help).
- ☛ The teeth of children under 2 should be brushed only with water. Children 2 to 6 years old should use a pea-sized amount of toothpaste. Be sure children spit it out.
- ☛ Brush in small circles and hold the handle near the toothbrush head while brushing.
- ☛ Help your children floss and check on their brushing.






Play ball...

Sports and employment physicals are covered by CHIP. Some schools and clinics offer physicals at a discounted rate. CHIP can pay for the physicals if they're given by CHIP providers.

Kids in Tow...

Recent fatal accidents involving children and airbags have caused concern for everyone. Here are some tips to keep children safe:

-  Place an infant in the back seat in a rear facing infant seat.
-  Children under 4 years of age or 40 pounds must be in child safety seats (car seats) with seat belts securely fastened.
-  Make sure everyone in your vehicle wears a seat belt shoulder strap.

For more information, call the National Safe Kids Campaign at 1-800-441-1888, or visit their web site at www.safekids.org. Check community organizations for car seat (for children 4 years and older) lending programs.

Waiting List 5-6 Months...



Right now CHIP has over 800 children on the waiting list. To avoid the wait, be sure to send in your renewal application on time.

Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services
Recommended Childhood Immunization Schedule

Key to shaded boxes		range of recommended ages				catch-up vaccination				preadolescent assessment			
Age ▶ Vaccine ▼		Birth	1 mo	2 mos	4 mos	6 mos	12 mos	15 mos	18 mos	24 mos	4-6 yrs	11-12 yrs	13-18 yrs
Hepatitis B		DTaP	Only if mother HbsAG (-)										
			HEpB#2				HepB#3			HepB series			
Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis				DTaP	DTaP	DTaP		DTaP			DTaP	MR #2	
Haemophilus Influenzae Type b				Hib	Hib	Hib	Hib						
Inactivated Polio				IPV	IPV	IPV					IPV		
Measles, Mumps, Rubella							MMR #1				MMR#2		
Varicella							Varicella			Varicella			
Pneumococcal				PCV	PCV	PCV	PCV				PCV	PPV	
----- Vaccines below this line are for selected populations -----													
Hepatitis A										Hepatitis A series			
Influenza						Influenza (yearly)							

Approved by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American Academy of Family Physicians.

Hep B — Vaccine to prevent Hepatitis B, highly infectious virus which attacks the liver.

DTaP — Combined vaccine to prevent Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis.

Hib — Vaccine to prevent Haemophilus b disease, a leading cause of meningitis, (an infection of the brain or covering of the brain and spinal cord).

IPV — Vaccine to prevent Polio.

PCV — Vaccine to prevent pneumococcal disease.

MMR — Combined vaccine to prevent Measles, Mumps and Rubella.

Varicella — Vaccine to prevent Varicella Zoster or Chickenpox.

Hep A — Vaccine to prevent Hepatitis A infection of the liver. Discuss with your doctor to determine your risk.

Important Information



CHIP: 1-877-KidsNow
(1-877-543-7669)
FAX: 1-877-418-4533
These are free calls.



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